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Extend the Holiday Hilarity Try a Hotel Party

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Extend Holiday Hilarity

Try a Hotel Party

By Marie Larson

YES, the blustering, blaring blasts of January have descended upon us in full fury to dispel the last vestige of our holiday spirit. What's to do about it? That's quite a problem, isn't it? We must provide fun for everyone with the least expenditure of time, money, and muscle.

I know—let's have a huge melting pot of ideas, seasoned with a dash of informality and stirred well by the spirit of congeniality. We'll allow the mixture to simmer in the spicy juices of laughter and light-heartedness and then breathlessly await the results. After careful analysis and thorough testing we find what may not be a standard product, but here it is for your approval.

The setting is a hotel—any type of hotel. It may possess the atmosphere of a place from the small town "four-bits-a-night" lodging house to that of the Savoy of Fifth Avenue. Take a good look at your sorority or dormitory parlors, allow your imagination to run riot and then decide what's to be done. You may visualize the formalized setting of the latter type; if so, here are a few suggestions.

First of all find some one artistically inclined who will design a good-sized sign which will read "L'Hotel de Joie" or some similar name. Place this above the door. With a bit of contriving on the part of everyone concerned lights can be extended to its four corners or above it to dazzle and intrigue the expected guest. Each couple upon arrival is required to sign the "hotel register" at the hotel desk, and from here they may proceed to the hotel lobby or lounge. It is surprising how quickly and easily one of the parlor rooms can be transformed into a hotel lobby. Ash trays, newspapers, magazines, and perhaps a potted palm or two will add just the right touch. Be sure to reserve a corner for the card players; there are always a few of them, you know.

For the "ballroom," balloons are "tops" for decorations. Just note the air of festivity they create. Let's have many balloons in a variety of colors. Their cost is comparatively low and they are easily put up. Streamers of crepe paper and electric lights in the same riotous combination of color may also be used to good advantage. At any

rate, let's give the room a vari-colored personality. It's much more interesting.

We must have refreshments and for them the guests may find their way to the hotel grill, located in some convenient corner. It should be a brilliantly decorated affair. Choose some color scheme, gold, silver, or cardinal and name it accordingly. How about a Golden Grill? Serve them ice-cold coes in sparkling glasses filled with cracked ice and let them sip it through those new colored cellophane straws. Produce plate upon plate of those delicious, crunchy wafers and just see how they disappear. If it's at all possible, provide stools for those who wish to sip their drinks at the counter.

ON THE other hand, if one pictures the setting of the aforementioned small town hotel, the scene will be entirely different. We have all seen that type of hotel and what fun we may have trying to reproduce the effect. The salon and lounge will have the casual appearance which is not hard to attain. The rooms may be strewn with gum wrappers, newspapers, magazines, ash trays and perhaps even the one-time honored spittoon. One can think of innumerable small touches which will give the desired atmosphere.

At the grill, which may be more or less quite common in appearance, the guests may be served Iowa State's favorite delicacy. Yes, doughnuts and cider—or should we have coes and cookies?

If you wish to get your guests stampeded into one grand mixer, how about this idea? From the names on the "register," number each couple consecutively. Just before refreshments are to be served announce that partners for lunch will be chosen and pass out sets of numbers corresponding to those in the "register," being certain that a separate set of numbers is given to the members of each sex. When they are instructed to find the person holding the same number most of them will doubtless be quite chagrined at the thought of eating with somebody new but joy will again reign supreme when each couple is reunited.

Alas! The contents of our melting pot have boiled down to nothingness.